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62. There are now four Medical Colleges in the State as against two in 1960-61 and the number of admissions has increased from 310 to 485. Similarly, the number of nurses' training schools has increased from 4 to 8, and the intake from 136 to 375.

63. The programme for 1964-65 for augmenting the medical facilities in the State includes the opening of six Homoeo dispensaries, six Ayurveda dispensaries, ten Allopathic dispensaries, five T. B. Centres three V. D. clinics, one T. B. re-habilitation centre and twenty-three S. E. T. (leprosy) centres. A provision of Rs. 7·53 lakhs is also included for providing additional beds in existing hospitals. The Third Plan target of 15000 hospital beds in the State has nearly been achieved.

64. It is proposed to reorganise and revitalise the family planning organisation. The programme envisages both educating the public on the need for having planned families and providing simple contraceptive materials within the reach of all classess of people. With this end in view new rural and urban units will be set up. A provision of Rs. 11 lakhs is made in the budget estimates for 1964-65 for strengthening the family planning organisation.

65. The Employees State Insurance Scheme intended to provide medical facilities to factory workers and their families has achieved substantial progress. A sum of Rs. 14. 35 lakhs is being provided for 1964-65 to extend the benefits to persons and areas which have not been covered by the scheme.

66. The Committee set up by Government to examine the question of reorganising the Department of Indigenous Medicine and the system of Ayurvedic education and other allied matters has submitted its report. A lump sum provision of Rs. 3 lakhs has been made in the budget towards the implementation of the recommendations after Government take final decisions on the report.

PUBLIC WORKS

67. The construction of buildings has been slowed down in view of its lower priority in the context of the National Emergency. For roads and bridges an amount of Rs. 2·52 crores is expected to be spent in 1963-64. Twenty-four bridges have been opened during this year. The next year's allocation for 'Communications' is Rs. 2·64 crores.

LAND REFORMS—IMPLEMENTATION OF

68. The passing of the Kerala Land Reforms Act, 1963, is one of the major achievements of last year towards the socio-economic progress of the agrarian community. The implementation of the reforms contemplated in the Act will be done with utmost expedition. The Act contemplates the appointment of Land Tribunals and a Land Board and necessary provision is included in the Budget estimates for 1964-65 for the connected expenditure. Section 109 of the Act envisages the constitution of an Agriculturist Rehabilitation Fund for rendering help by way of loan or grant to persons affected by the Act, in deserving cases. A token provision is made for the constitution of this Fund. Religious, charitable or educational inititutions of a public nature may vest in the Government their rights in respect of lands held by tenants under them and receive annuities fixed by the Land Tribunal. A token provision of Rs. 1 lakh is made in the budget estimates towards the payment of such annuity.

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